

PROPOSED ADDITION OF THE GENERIC NAME *JASUS* PARKER, 1883, TO THE OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY (CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER DECAPODA). Z.N.(S.) 620.

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The present application deals with the generic name *Jasus* Parker, 1883, which is commonly used to indicate a well-known genus of economically important spiny lobsters. The name was originally thought to be invalid as a junior homonym of *Jasus* Megerle, 1804, but this view has since been found to be incorrect. The International Commission is now asked to place the generic name *Jasus* Parker, 1883, on the Official List of Generic Names.

2. The following are the original references to the generic names dealt with in the present application:—

*Jasus* Parker, 1883 (*Nature* (London), 29 : 190), type-species, by present selection, *Palinurus lalandei* (emend. of *lalandii*) H. Milne Edwards, 1837 (*Hist. nat. Crust.* 2 : 293);

*Iassus* Fabricius, 1803 (*Syst. Rhyng.* : 85), type-species, by selection by Fallén, 1826, *Cicada lanio* Linnaeus, 1761 (*Fauna suec.* : 892);

*Jasus* Megerle, 1804 (*Cat. Ins.* 4 : [12]), an erroneous subsequent spelling for *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803;

*Jassus* Fallén, 1806 (*K. svensk. Vetensk.-Akad. nya Handl.* 27 : 115), an erroneous subsequent spelling for *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803;

*Iasus* Balss, 1913 (*Denskschr. med.-naturw. Ges. Jena* 17 : 108), an erroneous subsequent spelling for *Jasus* Parker, 1883;

*Palinostus* Bate, 1888 (*Rep. Voy. Challenger*, Zool. 24 : 56, 76, 85), type-species, by present selection, *Palinurus lalandei* (emend. of *lalandii*) H. Milne Edwards, 1837;

*Palinosytus* Bate, 1888 (*ibid.* : ix, xxx, lxxv, 937), a correct original spelling of *Palinostus* Bate, 1888.

3. The genus to which Parker in 1883 gave the name *Jasus* contains but two species, which inhabit the temperate region of the southern hemisphere (S. Africa, St. Paul and Amsterdam Islands, S.E. Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, Juan Fernandez and Tristan da Cunha). Notwithstanding the small number of species and the restricted range of distribution, this genus is highly important since both species are of a large size, are edible, and are very abundant in the localities where they occur, so that they form the subject of economically highly important fisheries. The Union of South Africa and Southwest Africa are by far the largest producers of spiny lobsters in the world. As shown by Chace & Dumont, 1949 (*Commerc. Fish. Rev.* Washington, 11(5) : 5), these two countries alone produced in 1947 not less than 25,000,000 pounds of the lobster *Jasus lalandei* (H. Milne Edwards), while Australia and New Zealand produced around that time about 4.5 million pounds of *Jasus* specimens annually. *Jasus* is also fished for commercial purposes off Juan Fernandez. Naturally the non-taxonomic literature concerning these spiny lobsters is

extensive and it is desirable that the generally accepted generic name of these animals should be placed on the Official List.

4. Only two names have ever been proposed for this genus of spiny lobsters. *Jasus* Parker, 1883, is the oldest and is generally accepted. The other name is *Palinostus* Bate, 1888, which was emended by Bate on p. ix of the Introduction to his report to *Palinosytus* because he thought that *Palinostus* too much resembled the generic name *Palinustus* A. Milne Edwards, 1880 (*Bull. Mus. comp. Zool. Harvard* 8 : 66), given to another genus of spiny lobsters. That Bate was right in this supposition is shown by the fact that Rathbun, 1910 (*Proc. U.S. nat. Mus.* 38 : 603) in error used A. Milne Edwards's name for the present genus.

5. *Palinostus* is first mentioned on page 56 of Bate's report, but without sufficient data to make the name available. On page 76, Bate discusses the morphological differences between *lalandei* and other species referred at that time to the genus *Palinurus*, and says: "It therefore appears that *Palinurus lalandii* should form a separate genus (*Palinostus*) . . .". By thus defining the characters of the genus, and by referring a single species to it, Bate not only established the nominal genus, but indicated its type-species by monotypy, at the same time rendering *Palinostus* a junior objective synonym of *Jasus* Parker, 1883. Later in the same work (: 85) he referred further species to the genus. *Palinosytus*, as a replacement name for *Palinostus*, also falls indirectly as a junior synonym of *Jasus*, but Mr. Melville (when editing this paper as Assistant Secretary to the Commission) and I have been unable to agree on the technical status of *Palinosytus*. In my view, it should be regarded as a correct original spelling of *Palinostus*, which in turn, having been rejected by Bate in the original publication, should be regarded as an incorrect original spelling without status in nomenclature. In Mr. Melville's view, since *Palinostus* was not subject to automatic correction for any reason, and was not a homonym, Bate had no valid cause to alter it, and *Palinosytus* should be regarded as an unjustified emendation of *Palinostus*. The point is of academic interest only, but the Commission is asked to specify whether the invalidity of *Palinosytus* is due to its being an incorrect original spelling or an unjustified emendation.

6. *Palinostus* has been used since its original publication by two authors only, namely, Lenz, 1902 (*Zool. Jahrb. Jena*, Suppl. 5 : 736) and Porter, 1905 (*Rev. chil. Hist. nat.* 9 : 34), and *Palinosytus* but once, by Stebbing, 1893 (*Hist. Crust.* : 196). Both Lenz and Stebbing, however, abandoned these names in later publications in favour of *Jasus*. This latter name has become firmly established in taxonomic and non-taxonomic literature concerning these animals, and I know of no author who, after the publication of Gruvel's important monograph of the PALINURIDAE in 1911 (*Ann. Inst. Océanogr. Monaco* 3) did not follow this author in accepting the name *Jasus* Parker for the present genus.

7. As has already been stated in paragraph 1 above, *Jasus* Parker was thought to be invalid as a junior homonym of *Jasus* Megerle, 1804. The *Catalogus Insectorum* was not available for examination by me, nor could a copy be found in any library in London. However, Professor E. M. Hering very kindly examined a copy of the catalogue in the Library of the Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, Berlin-Friedrichshagen, and has informed me that

*Jasus* Megerle is merely an erroneous subsequent spelling of *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803, and as such has no status in nomenclature. I am very grateful to Professor Hering for the trouble he took to trace a copy of the book. Dr. H. C. Blöte, curator of insects at the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, who is himself a specialist of the Hemiptera Homoptera, of which *Iassus* Fabricius forms part, was so kind as to inform me that the name *Jasus* Megerle is not at present used at all and that it is doubtful whether it has ever been used except by its original author. It is however necessary in the present connection to take steps to stabilise the valid generic name for the taxon represented by that name, and here I gratefully acknowledge the help of Dr. R. G. Fennah (Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, London).

8. As indicated in the preceding paragraph, the valid name for the Hemipteran genus in question is *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803 (type-species, by selection by Fallén, 1826, *Hem. succ. Cicad.* : 58, *Cicada lanio* Linnaeus, 1761, *Fauna succ.* : 892). This, which was one of the species originally included in the genus, was attributed by Fallén to Fabricius, but the latter author not only quoted the Linnean description, but also referred to "Syst. Nat. 2, p. 710, no. 37" (i.e. ed. 12, tom. 1, pt.2), so that there is no doubt that "*Iassus lanio* Fabricius" is identical with *Cicada lanio* Linnaeus, 1761. The specific name is the oldest available for the taxonomic species concerned.

9. The generic name was spelt "*Jassus*" not only by Fallén (1806, 1826) but also by Germar (1817, *Reise nach Dalmatien und in das Gebiet von Ragusa* : 281), without any attempt to justify the change, and it is clear that the name has no status in nomenclature. After 140 years of usage of *Jassus*, *Iassus* has in very recent times come into use among taxonomists and should be regarded as the only correct form of the name so long as the letters "I" and "J" are not regarded as interchangeable.

10. The generic name "*Jassus*" was taken as the basis of the family name incorrectly spelt "*JASSIDES*" by Amyot & Serville, 1843 (*Hemipt.* : 581). This name, which was long ago corrected to *JASSIDAE* is currently regarded as a subfamily of the family *CICADELLIDAE* and is spelt *IASSINAE*.

11. In the original description of the genus *Jasus* Parker, 1883, four species are mentioned by name : *Palinurus lalandii* [sic] H. Milne Edwards, 1837, *P. edwardsii* Hutton, 1875, *P. hügelii* Heller, 1862, and *P. tumidus* Kirk, 1880. No type-species was designated or indicated by Parker, and as far as is known to me, no subsequent author has selected a type-species. All four species mentioned by Parker are still included in the genus *Jasus*, but the last two are considered synonymous with *Jasus verreauxii* (H. Milne Edwards, 1851), while the second is regarded as a subspecies of *Jasus lalandei*. *Palinurus lalandei* (emend. of *lalandii*) H. Milne Edwards, 1837, is now selected as the type-species of *Jasus* Parker, 1883.

12. The specific name of this species was originally spelt *Lalandii* by H. Milne Edwards. From the French equivalent "Langouste de Lalande", cited immediately before the Latin name, it is evident that the species was dedicated to P. A. de la Lande, a preparator for Etienne Geoffroy St. Hilaire, who was sent by the Paris Museum to make collections in S. Africa in 1818-1821. The specific name should therefore have been correctly spelt *lalandei*, a spelling

which is adopted by several subsequent authors (for the first time by Stimpson, 1860, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* 1860 : 24) including Gruvel, 1911 (*Ann. Inst. Océanogr. Monaco* 3(4) : 10) in his important monograph of the PALINURIDAE. In carcinological literature as a whole, however, and especially in the older publications, the ending *-ii* prevails over *-ei* by about 40 to 10. The Commission is now asked to rule that *lalandei* is the correct form of the name and to place it on the Official List with this spelling.

13. As the genus *Jasus* is currently referred to the family PALINURIDAE (already placed on the Official List in Opinion 519) no family-group names are involved in the carcinological side of the present case.

14. I therefore ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :

(1) to place the following generic names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology :

(a) *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803 (gender : masculine), type-species, by selection by Fallén, 1826, *Cicada lanio* Linnaeus, 1761 (Class Insecta, Order Hemiptera) ;

(b) *Jasus* Parker, 1883 (gender : masculine), type-species by present selection, *Palinurus lalandei* (emend. of *lalandii*) H. Milne Edwards, 1837 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) ;

(2) to place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology :

(a) *lanio* Linnaeus, 1761, as published in the binomen *Cicada lanio* type-species of *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803) ;

(b) *lalandei* (emend. of *lalandii*) H. Milne Edwards, 1837, as published in the binomen *Palinurus lalandii* (type-species of *Jasus* Parker, 1883) ;

(3) to place the following generic names on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology :

(a) *Jasus* Megerle, 1804 (an erroneous subsequent spelling of *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803) ;

(b) *Jassus* Fallén, 1806 (an erroneous subsequent spelling of *Iassus* Fabricius, 1806) ;

(c) *Iasus* Balss, 1913 (an erroneous subsequent spelling of *Jasus* Parker, 1883) ;

(d) *Palinostus* Bate, 1888 (a junior objective synonym of *Jasus* Parker, 1883) ;

(e) *Palinosytus* Bate, 1888 (an incorrect original spelling or an unjustified emendation of *Palinostus* Bate, 1888) ;

(4) to place *lalandii* H. Milne Edwards, 1837, as published in the binomen *Palinurus lalandii* (an incorrect original spelling for *lalandei*) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology ;

(5) to place IASSINAE (correction of JASSIDES) Amyot & Serville, 1843 (type-genus : *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803) on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology ;

(6) to place JASSIDES Amyot & Serville, 1843 (type-genus : *Iassus* Fabricius, 1803) (an Invalid Original Spelling for IASSINAE) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology.